

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. - 11. (canceled)

12. (new) A tire having a rotation timing indication hole comprising a multi-step hole defined in a tire tread, wherein

the multi-step hole of the rotation timing indication hole includes a first step on a tire tread surface side and a second step smaller than the first step on a bottom side; and each of the first step and the second step has a different contour from the other, one of the first step and the second step having a contour with straight lines and the other of the first step and the second step having a contour with curved lines.

13. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

a first tire rotation timing is indicated by a change from the contour of the first step to the contour of the second step of the hole with a disappearance of the first step; and a second tire rotation timing is indicated by a disappearance of the second step.

14. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

a stepped portion is formed between the first step and the second step; and the contour of the second step is inscribed within the contour of the first step.

15. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

the contour with straight lines forms a polygon; and the contour with curved lines forms a rounded shape.

16. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 15, wherein

the polygon is any one of a triangle, a square, a pentagon, and a hexagon; and the rounded shape is either one of a perfect circle and an ellipse.

17. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

the first step has the contour with curved lines; and
the second step has the contour with straight lines.

18. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

the first step has the contour with straight lines; and
the second step has the contour with curved lines.

19. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in any one of claims 12 to 18, wherein the rotation timing indication hole is provided in the tire tread in a widthwise direction of the tire and in the vicinity of a wear indicating portion for indicating timing for changing the tire when a tread surface reaches the wear indicating portion.

20. (new) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 19, wherein the rotation timing indication hole comprises twelve holes, in total, arranged in pairs in the widthwise direction of the tire, the resulting six pairs of the holes being arranged at uniform intervals in a circumferential direction of the tire.

21. (new) A method for indicating rotation timing of a tire having a rotation timing indication hole provided in a tire tread, the method comprising

providing, in the rotation timing indication hole, a first step on a tire tread surface side and a second step smaller than the first step on a bottom side, wherein

each of the first step and the second step has a different contour from the other, one of the first step and the second step having a contour with straight lines and the other of the first step and the second step having a contour with curved lines;

indicating a first tire rotation timing by a change from the contour with straight lines of the first step to the contour with curved lines of the second step or from the contour with curved lines of the first step to the contour with straight lines of the second step with a disappearance of the first step; and
indicating a second tire rotation timing by a disappearance of the second step.

22. (new) The method for indicating rotation timing of the tire as set forth in claim 21, wherein a wear indicating portion is provided in the vicinity of the rotation timing indication hole and timing for changing the tire is indicated when a tread surface reaches the wear indicating portion.